

This Regular Board meeting was called to order by President Mire at 6:30pm

Roll Call:

Physically Present – Peschang, Robertson, Fiems, and Fowler

Absent – Polenske and DeMarlie

Others Physically Present – Clerk Housenga, Public Works Director Bump, Attorney Jim Zmuda, Kathy Peschang, Angel Jacobs of MSA Professional Services, John Thompson, Jeff Farmer, Cyntia McManus, Stephanie & Kevin Keadlec, Robert Hawkins, Deb & Corey Fulton

Others Virtually Present – None.

A quorum was physically established.

CONSENT “Omnibus” Agenda: Fiems motioned to approve 05/13/2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, 64/2025 Monthly Bills totaling \$109,319.42 and Treasure’s Report for 05/2025; Fowler seconded. All present board members voted yes, motion passes.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: Odoni Partners did not appear at the meeting once again. Mire noted the audits were past due. Housenga confirmed after last month’s meeting she tried to touch base with Dante Odoni to identify what documentation he needed to complete the audit(s), and no response was given. Housenga also confirmed the date of June 13th, 2025 is when Odoni was to have given the FY 2024 audit to the State of Illinois. Mire has also attempted to contact Odoni Partners to discuss with no success. Fiems, Fowler and Roberson all agreed to not enter into an agreement with any firm with out having clear understanding of timelines as the actions of this auditor maybe jeopardizing our chances at grants and funding opportunities. Peschang stated this is not the first time he has heard of incidents of lack of communication and follow through for Odoni Partners. Housenga is to send our engagement contract with Odoni to Zmuda review. Other audit firms have been sought out to ensure our reports and audits are done timely in the future.

Robert Hawkins once again updated the board of his findings concerning the vacating of the roadway at the end of 7th Avenue A. Hawkins has engaged with Attorney Bulk who indicated the Village’s Board of Trustees needed to vote on two items (1.) vacate the 50’ future road easement, (2.) accept a 25’ extension on the current road for an easement to disposal of snow, then Bulk stated they would work with Zmuda to get the new agreement recorded. Further, Hawkins states Bulk informed him there was no survey required to accomplish the transaction. Zmuda stated he was not comfortable with proceeding without a survey. Mire requested Zmuda and Bulk communicate to come to a common agreement to move forward. Housenga is to send minutes from last month’s meeting to Bulk and Hawkins. Mire also stated if the process of accomplishing the proceedings and file paperwork is greater than the July Regular Board Meeting date the board would work with him to extend the deadline.

Angel Jacobs of MSA Professional Services first reported she submitted on behalf of the Village to IDOT a grant application for the design of the 17th Street extension which includes the top of the hill to 52nd Avenue. The grant does not allow for water and sewer to be incorporated portion of the design in the grantable items. Storm sewer was included in the grant for the design. All communications should be coming to Mire.

Jacobs also presented the water system PER for approval. The PER is required to apply for the SRF Loan from IEPA. The PER details upgrades and rehabilitating the water tower and water system maintenance needed as reported by the IEPA after the April 22nd, 2025 site visit. Jacobs reiterated that the Village does not qualify for loan forgiveness with current statistics. The total estimated funding requested for rehabilitation and improvements is \$1.422 million, Jacobs will have to verify if there is a limit for loan applications. The term of the loan is 20 years at a rate of 1.36%, total monthly cost is projected at \$7,195.00. The surcharge recently approved would not cover the cost of this loan. Construction and design engineers were included in the total previously provided. Mire stated the Village does have the loan capacity to available to accept if we were approved. If the PER was accepted by the board and MSA submitted as is along with the loan application approval could possibly be given by August 2025. Bump noted some of the items included in the PER were noted by the EPA during inspection and needs to be done prior to application and approval of any funding, 120 days from acceptance of the action plan. There for the PER would need to be modified. Robertson motioned to approve Mire to sign the loan application and submit the presented MSA prepared Village of Rapids City Preliminary Engineering Report accompanied, Fiems seconded the motion, all present members of the board voted yes, motion carries. Fiems clarified applying for the loan does not mean accepting the loan. Fiems also pointed out that taking these steps may show positively to the ILEPA that we are serious about taking care of some of the deficiencies indicated in their report. Mire

reassured those in attendance that there was nothing wrong with the water, these are just maintenance items that are needed.

Kenny Reveal and Cheryl Forsland did not appear at the meeting.

Greg Kerner addressed the board requesting financial assistance with the most recent utility billing for the property located at 402 17th Street. The billed usage from May 2025 was 159,600 gallons. Kerner did state he had filled his pool from the skimmer line, estimating total water used should have only been approximately 2,500 gallons. Kerner did have a plumber come into the home to identify any leaks. The plumber found and replaced a malfunctioning toilet valve. Housenga has had daily readings taken and all readings have indicated the leak has been fixed at this time. Mire explained at this time the only amount the board could possibly adjust is the sewer portion of the bill for the pool fill, so less than \$20.00. Mire recommended the account be exempt from late charges until Bump could go to the home to investigate the situation and report back at the July 2025 meeting.

PRESIDENT – Mire: Fiems motioned to approve the provided Our Community is Stronger Than Cancer Day with the redaction of paragraphs 4, 5, and 9. Robertson seconded the motion, all present members voted yes, motion carries.

Mire noted mediation proceedings will be occurring on Monday June 16th, 2025 for the Waterloop Project. Mire has called for a Committee of the Whole Meeting that evening at 6pm if an amicable financial resolution has been reached then a meeting would be warranted that evening, if no resolution has been reached then the meeting will be canceled and possibly rescheduled for a future date.

Mire also noted Senator Li Arellano Jr. will be visiting the Village our office for a meet and greet on June 19th at 1pm. Mire invited the Trustees, pointing out they should talk prior to arrival to ensure an illegal meeting will not occur.

POLICE REPORT: Report was presented

ATTORNEY – Califf & Harper P.C.: Nothing new to discuss.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Carey: Reports was verbally presented Housenga.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Report as presented.

Bump also reported that the water system computer system still has not been resolved, manual monitoring continues until the issue has been resolved. Bump has been in contact with the vendor to ensure work is progressing on the equipment. Mire and the board thanked Bump and Meier for their diligence to keeping our water system in tact during these last few months.

Bump briefed the board on the presented Site Inspection Report from ILEPA from the inspection that occurred on May 22nd, 2025. Bump will be looking into all required modifications needed to satisfy reporting, testing, safety standards and maintenance imposed by ILEPA.

INFRASTRUCTURE (Public Works, Water, Sewer & Garbage) – Robertson: Robertson motioned enroll the monthly East Moline Sewer Processing Bill into auto pay once again. Fowler seconded the motion, all present members voted yes, motion carries.

PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY – Polenske: Bump will coordinate with Mulchscapers to top off all mulch at the parks.

VIDEO GAMING, COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENT PLANNING – Fowler: Fowler reported gaming revenues received this last month were \$4,105.77.

The annual First Responders and Military Luncheon held on May will be held this Saturday at Shadow Hill, Fowler invited all residents to join the event.

Veteran's and First Responders Luncheon was held on May 14th, 2025. Went well, lots of law enforcement officials and fire fighters were in attendance, overall attendance was low for the event though.

ORDINANCE, LICENSES, BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Peschang: Peshang briefed the board on the Planning and Zoning Hearing that was held on June 9th, 2025 addressing the requests for Adam Colbrese at the property located 106 12th Street. Per minutes provided from the hearing the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approving the rezoning of the property from R-1 to C-1 and recommended approving the variance setback reduction to 25'. Robertson motioned to reject the recommendation and requests of rezoning of the property from

R-1 to C-1 and the variance setback reduction to 25' located at 106 12th Street, Rapids City, IL. Fowler seconded the motion to reject the recommendation and request for rezoning and variance, all present members concurred, motion carries. During the discussion portion Mire noted the request does not follow the current Comprehensive Plan. Mire also gave historical statistics concerning previous requests similar in nature. Mire also read to the board and audience information concerning spot zoning, in the information it was indicated the practice of spot zoning is illegal and not ligament if there is not a public benefit or interest, Zmuda agreed with this data. Farmer understood and had not arguments to the data provided. During discussion concerned citizens voiced their opinions on the matter.

Reported 4 general permits, 2 plumbing permits were issued last month.

FINANCE – DeMarlie: Mire authorized a donation to Wounded Warriors in the amount of \$100.00.

PERSONNEL & PUBLIC SAFETY – Fiems: Nothing to report currently

ELECTIONS – Mire: Nothing to report at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

With nothing further to discuss, Fiems motioned to adjourn this Regular Board Meeting at 8:06pm. Peschang seconded the motion, all members of the Board concurred.

Missy M. Housenga
Village Clerk